

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /053 W

-----003967 102032Z /41

R 100433Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1208

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 9420

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, MY, SN, UK

SUBJ: CIVIL AVIATION: GOM DENIES OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FOR

SIA CONCORDE FLIGHTS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND LONDON

1. GOM HAS MADE PUBLIC ITS EARLIER DECISION TO REFUSE OVERFLIGHT AND ALTERNATE LANDING RIGHTS FOR SINGAPORE AIRLINES' CONCORDE FLIGHTS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND LONDON. THE ONLY REQSONS GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION WERE, "ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER FACTORS." DESPITE QUESTIONING BY REPORTERS, HE REFUSED TO DESCRIBE THE "OTHER FACTORS."

2. EARLIER DOUBTS THAT THE SERVICE COULD BEGIN AS SCHEDULED ON DECEMBER 9 WERE RESOLVED WHEN SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT OBTAINED PERMISSION TO USE INDONESIAN AIRSPACE INSTEAD. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS, A BRITISH AIRWAYS SPOKESMAN IN LONDON SAID THE VARIATION IN TRACT IS SO MINIMAL IT WILL NOT AFFECT THE FLYING TIME. IT RUNS ABOUT FIVE MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE ORIGINAL ROUTE DOWN THE STRAITS OF MALACCA.

3. COMMENT: GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAS, THIS APPARENTLY ARBITRARY REFUSAL CAME AS A SURPRISE TO BRITISH SOURCES HERE. THE DECISION APPEARS TO BE CLOSELY RELATED TO MAS'S DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING SATISFACTORY PASSENGER CARRYING RIGHTS TO LONDON FOR ITS NEW DC-10'S. THIS TACTIC MAY BACKFIRE HOWEVER, IF THE FLIGHTS CONTINUE SUCCESSFULLY DESPITE LACK OF COOPERATION FROM THE GOM.

MILLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, AVIATION  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KUALA09420  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CIVIL AVIATION: GOM DENIES OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FOR SIA CONCORDE FLIGHTS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND LONDON  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009